



Introduced Version

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. _____

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION congratulating Indiana State Parks on its 100th anniversary, its contributions to the health, recreation, and outdoor education of Indiana's citizens and guests, and its commitment to the conservation of the State of Indiana's unique natural and cultural resources held in trust in those state parks.

**Eberhart, Arnold L, Austin, Baird, Bartlett, Bauer,
Behning, Beumer, Borders, Bosma, Braun, Brown T,
Burton, Carbaugh, Clere, Cook, Culver, Davisson,
Dermody, DeVon, Errington, Fine, Forestal, Friend,
Frizzell, Goodin, Gutwein, Hale, Harman, Harris D,
Huston, Kirchhofer, Klinker, Koch, Lawson L, Lehe,
Lehman, Lucas, Lyness, Macer, Mahan, Mayfield,
McNamara, Miller D, Moed, Morrison, Moseley, Negele,
Niezgodski, Ober, Olthoff, Pierce, Porter, Rhoads,
Richardson, Schaibley, Saunders, Shackelford, Smaltz,
Smith M, Smith V, Soliday, Stemler, Sullivan, Thompson,
Truitt, VanNatter, Wesco, Wright, Hamm, Price, Morris,
Frye R, Leonard, Zent, Kersey**

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on _____

20162278

2016

HC 1021/DI 84



HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION congratulating Indiana State Parks on its 100th anniversary, its contributions to the health, recreation, and outdoor education of Indiana's citizens and guests, and its commitment to the conservation of the State of Indiana's unique natural and cultural resources held in trust in those state parks.

Whereas, The Indiana State Park system celebrates 100 years in operation in 2016;

Whereas, Indiana's State Park system was a State centennial birthday gift to Indiana's citizens in 1916;

Whereas, The Indiana Historical Commission was established by an Act of the General Assembly, signed by Governor Samuel Ralston on March 8, 1915, to plan, memorialize, and document Indiana's centennial;

Whereas, The Indiana Historical Commission stated that a "dignified and worthy memorial should be established for the State as a whole as a part of the 1916 State centennial, and none was more worthy than the initiation of a state park system";

Whereas, The concept of establishing a state park system for Indiana was met with "spontaneous and enthusiastic support" from individuals and organizations such as the Indiana Academy of Science, the Indiana Forestry Association, the Indiana Audubon Society, and the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce, among others;

Whereas, Colonel Richard Lieber was appointed Chair of



the State Park Committee of the Indiana Historical Commission and was charged with acquiring land for state parks that might "include tracts or buildings associated by history or tradition with the development of the State," or "should be selected because of scenic or primeval charms, thus preserving for all time, some of the beauty spots and virgin forests [of Indiana] which cannot be reproduced";

Whereas, Colonel Lieber and the State Park Committee dedicated their time and energy to encourage businesses and individuals to contribute funds for land acquisition for Indiana's first state park(s), a tradition that continues today;

Whereas, McCormick's Creek State Park, Indiana's first state park, and Turkey Run State Park, Indiana's second state park, were established and presented to the State in 1916 by Colonel Lieber and the State Park Committee of the Indiana Historical Commission;

Whereas, These state parks were established, in the words of Colonel Lieber, to "refresh and strengthen and renew tired people, and fit them for the common round of daily life" and with the understanding that state parks could be economic drivers for communities through their role in tourism and job creation;

Whereas, Over the last century of both progress and challenge in our State, Indiana State Parks have developed into a nationally recognized system of 32 properties, including 24 state parks, eight United States Army Corps of Engineers reservoirs, and seven state park inns located within parks;

Whereas, State park staff at all levels have provided outstanding vision and public service to conserve and manage facilities, programs, and natural and cultural resources, and continue to evaluate and respond to outdoor recreation and resource management trends in the 21st Century;

Whereas, Our Indiana State Parks continue to provide a wide variety of memorable outdoor experiences for all guests while maintaining Indiana's unique natural landscapes and



cultural features;

Whereas, We affirm as true today Colonel Richard Lieber's 20th Century statement that "Like mighty altars stand our parks; masterpieces of creation and the crowning glory of our land; rich storehouses of memories and reveries; guides and counsels to the weary and faltering of spirit; bearers of wonderful tales to him who will listen; a solace to the aged and an inspiration to the young. Let us so keep them as sacred inheritance, and so transmit them to future generations"; and

Whereas, It is fitting that the Indiana General Assembly give special recognition to Indiana State Parks during its 100th anniversary celebration: Therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives
of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,
the Senate concurring:*

1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly congratulates
2 Indiana State Parks on the 100th anniversary of its founding and its
3 continued commitment to providing outstanding outdoor experiences
4 for all of Indiana's citizens, and to maintaining excellence in
5 stewardship of the natural and cultural resources with which the system
6 is entrusted.

7 SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to
8 transmit copies of this Resolution to the commissioner of the Indiana
9 Department of Natural Resources.

